IFW

Docket No.: 67161-061



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Takashi KONO, et al.

Confirmation Number: 7743

Application No.: 10/625,588

Group Art Unit: 2818

Filed: July 24, 2003

Examiner: Michael T. Tran

For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE HAVING A SUB-AMPLIFIER CONFIGURATION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required.

Applicant is entitled to small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27

Also attached:

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE
Total Claims	7	20	0	\$18.00 =	\$0.00
Independent Claims	2	3	0	\$88.00 =	\$0.00
Multiple claims newly presented					\$0.00
		Fee for extension of time			\$0.00
					\$0.00
		Total of Above Calculations			\$0.00

Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>500417</u> in the amount of \$0.00. An additional copy of this transmittal sheet is submitted herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 500417, including any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

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Date: December 2, 2004

WDC99 1012185-1.067161.0061

Please recognize our Customer No. 20277 as our correspondence address.

DIPE VCC.

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CONFIGURATION

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 2, 2004.

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 7 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 4, 5 and 7 have been allowed. Claims 3 and 6, which are dependent from rejected claim 1, have been indicated to be allowable if presented in appropriate independent form. Favorable reconsideration of the rejection of claim 1 in light of the following comments and allowance of the application are respectfully solicited.

Paragraph 4 of the Office Action questions whether the sub-word line driver zones and the sense amplifier zones, of claims 1 and 2, intersect each other, e.g. physically or electrically. In response, it is believed clear from the disclosure that the zones intersect physically, not electrically.